

Annual Auction

Friday April 19, 2013

Doors Open at 6:00pm

Our Saviors Lutheran Church

1035 Carol Lane Lafayette

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NTW

**National Public Safety
Telecommunicators Week
April 14 — 20, 2013**

PRESIDENT'S QTC



Amateur radio gear and related equipment are welcome! **NO JUNK**, repeat, ***NO JUNK*** !

Seller registration begins at 6:00 pm.

Auction begins at 7:00 pm and ends promptly at **10:00 pm.**

This is a great opportunity to clean out the shack or to search for bargains. The auction is always a lot of fun.

Please note that there will be no amateur radio license testing this evening !

Detailed information on page 3.

Hope to see you there!

73, Jim Siemons, AF6PU, President

AMATEUR RADIO SUPPORT NEEDED FOR THESE UPCOMING PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

March of Dimes March for Babies Walkathon

April 27 - Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton

Radio Coordinator: Pete Harris, KE6ZIW

Concord Mt. Diablo Trail Ride

May 4 - Mt. Diablo

Radio Coordinator: Larry Loomer, KI6LNB (Thanks, Larry!)

Devil Mountain Run

May 5 - Danville and Las Trampas Hill

Radio Coordinator: Chris Quirk, W6CJQ

Berkeley Hills Road Race

May 12 (Mother's Day) - Bike race in the East Bay hills
Radio Coordinator: Mark Walsh, KM6XU

May 18 - Bicycle race to summit of Mt. Diablo

Radio Coordinator: John Stuart, KM6QX

Alcatraz Challenge Swim

May 27 (Memorial Day Monday) - S.F. Bay & Waterfront. Radio Coordinator: Barry Bettman
Contact Barry directly for this event at

k6st@arrl.net.

Alcatraz Challenge Aquathlon Swim #1

June 30 - San Francisco Bay and waterfront

4th of July Parade

July 4 - Downtown Pleasant Hill

Radio Coordinator: Pete Harris, KE6ZIW

Alcatraz Challenge Aquathlon Swim #2

August 11 - San Francisco Bay and waterfront

Radio Coordinator: Barry Bettman

Contact Barry directly for this event at

k6st@arrl.net.

Pete Harris, KE6ZIW

Public Services Coordinator

Pharris125@comcast.net

925-228-4503

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX

P.O. Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

(925) 288-1730

The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

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Vice President - John Weldon, KJ6GLQ

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Public Service - Pete Harris, KE6ZIW

Field Day Chairs - Lauren Styles, WA6CIE and

Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV

Communications Trailer - Brent Morgan, AF6HQ

Refreshments: Elizabeth Styles KG6HLV

Holiday Dinner: Misa Siemons KJ6BUE

Annual Picnic - Lauren Styles, WA6CIE

The Carrier Newsletter

Editor, Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA n4dla_cs245@yahoo.com

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ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CLUB YAHOO GROUP. DOWNLOAD FILES, INCLUDING *THE CARRIER* IN FULL COLOR AS WELL AS SHARE INFORMATION WITH THE MEMBERSHIP AT:



Annual Auction

Our club's annual auction will be held during our regular monthly club meeting on April 19, 2013. The auction process will be the same as last year. If you wish to participate in the auction, you will need a bidders card. Please pick up one when you enter the room and return it when you are finished at the end of the evening.

Buyers

Please show the **red side** of the card when bidding and display the number on the opposite side if you are the successful bidder.

Bids will be in increments of \$1.00 or more.

Payment will be by check or cash. Checks will be made out to "Cash". Credit cards will not be accepted.

Sellers

Before the meet, please determine how many item cards you will need. After you get your bidders card, we will provide you with the needed item cards. The seller number on the item card is the number from your bidder's card. If the item is being donated to MDARC, please enter 1 as the seller number. If you wish, you may print the item description on an Avery 5160 label. That can be applied directly to the item card. Please take the claim check from the bottom of the item card.

No item will have a starting bid of less than \$1.00

Sellers will be charged 10% of the selling price per item.

Sellers will be paid the evening of the auction. Sellers will not be for items until the buyer has paid. Sellers will be paid with both cash and buyer's checks.

Sellers are responsible for removal of unsold items.

If there are any questions, please contact me.

73,

Bill Swindell – K1LED@arrl.net





" A 2013 Camping Adventure"

May 31st, June 1st, & 2nd

Introduction

The joint SFARC-MDARC campout will take place starting on Friday, June 1st and end on Sunday, June 3rd at the Sugar Pine Dam Recreation Area. It is one of the most beautiful spots in Placer County. This will be a joint venture between the Club and a another group of radio amateurs who have meeting for this annual event for the last 30 years. We are limited to 50 people at this site so get your reservations in early.

What The Campsite Provides

At approximately 3,000 feet above sea level, the campground has water and restroom facilities, no hookups, but nice spaces for trailers, tents and motor homes. There are three large barbecue pits available at our site as well as a large recessed pit for a grand campfire. There are plenty of trees as well as open space for stringing a G5RV and a double extended zepp for your HF station if it is your desire to bring one. However there are plans for at least one active HF station from WA6UHA (weather permitting). We will be using the club call, W6PW. Tentatively our stations will be active on 40 and 75 meters, during the day on the Noon Time Net frequency of 7268.5 KHz (Friday afternoon and all day Saturday) and at night (Friday & Saturday) on 3952 KHz (the Western Public Service Net frequency). It's time to pack up and enjoy the great outdoors and warm up for Field Day coming three weeks later. VHF and UHF paths for both Bay Area and Sacramento television and FM stations are quite good even with simple antennas. Obviously, working 2 meters and 440 into Sacramento and the Bay Area repeaters is not difficult especially during the early morning hours when path conditions are ideal.

The Sugar Pine Lake is just a 1/2 mile from the campsite. A hiking trail leads to the water and connects to another trail that follows the perimeter of the lake. The main swimming area is located on the opposite side of the lake and is accessible by hiking or by a 10 minute drive.

A Chronological Look At The Planned Activities

Friday, May 31

Between 12 noon and 1 PM, the forest ranger will arrive to unlock the gate for access to our site. The gate will remain open through out our stay. Also during this time and throughout the afternoon and the early evening the 145.43 repeater (PL 162.2hz), K6MDD A & C D-star, and 146.49 simplex will be monitored. When you arrive, park at any of the available spaces. There are plenty. ***That evening, you are on your own for dinner. Use your Weber or the barbecue pits provided at the site.***

Saturday, June 1

In the morning, you are on your own for breakfast after which, if you desire, join us for a hike to and around the lake. Weather pending, the view will be picture postcard as we make our way around. We will pass the swimming area and cross the dam as we make our way back to Rocky Ridge. The hike should take approximately 2 hours. *(continued on following page)*

After arriving back at the campsite, you are on your own for lunch if you desire but most of us would probably settle for a tall cold one. Later on you can scrounge around for wood for the campfire that night. Around 4:30 the full socializing begins and the bar is open. Bring out the appetizers and munches which is part of the pot luck. Also during this time, the host supplied charcoal will be prepared and the barbecue pits will be lit. However, before dinner as an idea conceived by Fred Townsend AE6QL, we will have a champagne cork popping contest. To participate in this event, bring your own champagne ...**AND NO BOTTLES WITH SCREW-ON CAPS...CORK ONLY.**

As for dinner that follows, the hot coals will be provided for cooking your choice of meat. Please bring out a side dish, salad, rolls for dinner and dessert to share, and don't forget there will be great music for everyone's taste provided by Dave, WA6UHA.

After dinner, the camp fire will be started so bring your own marshmallows. The sticks will be provided by the campsite. Enjoy the fire as we sing, chat, or whatever you would like to do at this time. Plus we will have a real space odyssey with a few astronomical telescopes set up.

Sunday, June 2

At approximately 8 am, preparation will be underway for the host provided barbecued pancakes. Two kinds will be provided, plain and Oregon Blueberry. After many years of research we were able to come up with a process that prevents the pancake batter from seeping through the grill and on to the charcoal. Supply your own beverages and sides and share if you like. In the late morning, it's cleanup time and we say our good-byes until next year.

Looks Great...Now How Do We Get There??

From San Francisco, drive east on Interstate 80 through Auburn and exit at Foresthill. Head east on Foresthill Road crossing the mile long panoramic American River Bridge. Continue heading east for about 20 miles and you will reach the town of Foresthill. After passing through town continue east for another 10 miles and turn left at Sugar Pine Dam Road. There should be sign just before you reach the junction. Once you are on Sugar Pine Dam Road (Route 10), follow the road carefully, there are a few turnoffs that can possibly throw you off course. If you have any questions while on Foresthill or Sugar Pine Dam road, you should be in simplex range. Monitor 146.49. The 145.43 (PL 162.2) Auburn repeater should also be available and it will be the primary talk-in to get you to the site. In any case, stay on the blacktop. Eventually you approach a junction with the main road going slightly to the left and a road going slightly to the right with a gate which should be open for us. This is also the junction where route 10 ends as indicated by a sign even though the road continues. As you go past the gate, there is a sign posted there marking the reserved group campsites. Follow the signs for the Rocky Ridge site which will be reserved for us. The total drive time from San Francisco to the campground should be approximately 3 hours if you avoid the Bay Area and Sacramento rush hours.

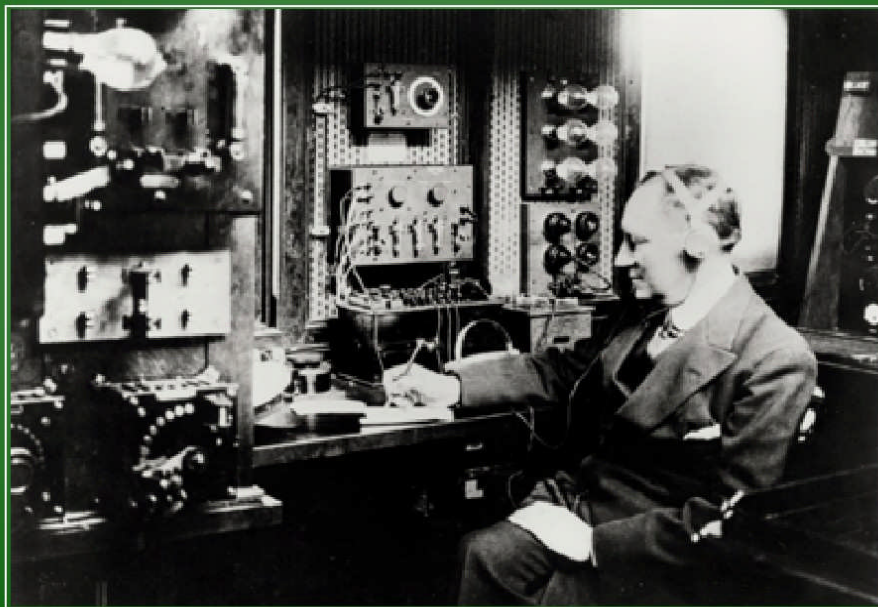
Cost To You

Just \$40 per family!! The more the participants...you might not have to dig so deep into your wallet...

How To Make Reservations

E-mail Dave, WA6UHA at youha@pacbell.net with your name, home QTH, type of vehicle, and number in your party.

International Marconi Day



What is International Marconi Day?

April 20, 2013 from 0000 to 2359 UTC on all HF bands and modes.

International Marconi Day (IMD) is a 24-hour amateur radio event held annually to celebrate the birth of Guglielmo Marconi on the 25th April 1874. The IMD event is not a contest: it is an opportunity for amateurs around the world to make point-to-point contact with historic Marconi sites using HF communications techniques similar to those used by Marconi, and to gain an attractive Award for achieving the requisite number of Marconi stations worked.

IMD is usually held on the Saturday closest to Marconi's birthday, when amateur radio stations are established and operated from original historic sites, or nearby. These stations are known as the 'Award Stations' and are listed on this Web Site. The list is regularly updated as the various stations confirm their availability to operate.

Communications techniques have changed significantly since the days of Marconi's first experiments, and today, the Internet has become the most widely used of all communications media. However, the spirit of IMD remains basically that of making point-to-point contact between two stations using only the HF bands.

More information at <http://www.gb4imd.com/>.

Why can't public safety just use cell phones and smart phones for their mission critical voice communications?

Unfortunately it's not that simple.

Although public safety regularly use cell phones, smart phones, and other commercial wireless devices and services as a secondary form of communications, these devices and systems are currently not sufficiently suited for public safety mission critical voice communications during critical incidents.

Public safety officials cannot depend upon commercial systems that can be overloaded and unavailable. Experience has shown such systems are often the most unreliable during critical incidents when public demand overwhelms the systems.

Public safety officials have unique and demanding communications requirements. Optimal public safety radio communications require:

- Dedicated channels and priority access that is available at all times to handle unexpected emergencies.
- Mission-critical one-to-many group capability, a feature not available in today's commercial cellular systems.
- Highly reliable, secure, and redundant networks under local control that are engineered and maintained to withstand natural disasters and other emergencies.
- The best possible coverage within a jurisdictional area, with a minimum of dead zones – even in areas where commercial cellular services are not economically viable.
- And, unique, ruggedized equipment designed for quick response in emergency situations. First responders must not be forced to dial, wait for call connections, or get busy signals when seconds mean the difference between life and death!

Why can't public safety just use the planned nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN) for their mission critical voice communications?

Again, it's not that simple.

Although the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN) will have voice capabilities that will be valuable to public safety, the network will not be able to initially provide (for many years and maybe never) the mission critical level of voice service and dependability needed by public safety. The NPSBN is intended to provide urgently needed broadband data capabilities for public safety and is not initially being designed to replace current land mobile radio (LMR) mission critical public safety voice systems.

One key element lacking for the NPSBN to replace LMR is that the NPSBN will use LTE commercial technology, a network technology that does not currently provide the "OFF NETWORK" capability that is critical to public safety. This means that when the broadband network is not available or not reachable there will be no communications, a critical requirement for public safety.

Other key elements required for mission critical voice include but are not limited to:

- **Nationwide broadband build out:** It will take 10 years or more to build out the nationwide public safety broadband network to provide mission critical coverage equal to current public safety land mobile networks.
- **Direct Mode or Talk Around:** The capability to communicate unit-to-unit when out of range of a wireless network OR when working in a confined area where direct unit-to-unit communications is required.
- **Push-to-Talk (PTT):** The standard form of public safety voice communications today. The speaker pushes a button on the radio and immediately transmits the voice message to one or many other units. When they are done talking they release the PTT switch and return to the listen mode of operation.
- **Group Call:** This method of voice communications provides communications from one-to-many members of a group and is of vital importance to the public safety community.

There is much debate relative to whether broadband will eventually have the capabilities to replace current mission-critical public safety LMR systems, however the facts are clear that if this capability becomes reality it is not likely to happen in less than 10 years.

Local, tribal, state, and federal public officials are urged to not abandon or stop funding their public safety voice LMR systems until such time as it can be demonstrated that broadband can safely and adequately provide public safety with the mission critical requirements currently provided by LMR.

Got Drugs?

Turn in your unused or expired
medication for safe disposal
Saturday, April 27,
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Visit www.dea.gov
or call 800-882-9539
for a collection
site near you

ANTIOCH POLICE DEPT 300 L STREET
BERKELEY POLICE DEPT 2830 SACRAMENTO ST
(Mobile Health Vehicle)
CONCORD POLICE DEPT 1350 GALINDO ST
DANVILLE POLICE DEPT 510 LA GONDA WAY
DUBLIN POLICE DEPT 100 CIVIC PLAZA
HERCULES POLICE DEPT 111 CIVIC DR
LIVERMORE POLICE DEPT
1110 SOUTH LIVERMORE AVE
MARTINEZ: CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SHERIFF
1980 MUIR RD
OAKLAND POLICE DEPT 455 7th ST
OAKLEY POLICE DEPT 3231 MAIN ST
PITTSBURG POLICE DEPT 65 CIVIC AVE
PLEASANTON POLICE DEPT 4833 BERNAL AV
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HRO Store Contact Information

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San Diego, CA	sd@hamradio.com	1-858-560-4900	1-800-854-6046	1-858-560-1705
Sunnyvale, CA	sun@hamradio.com	1-408-736-9496	1-800-854-6046	1-408-736-9499
Woodbridge, VA	va@hamradio.com	1-703-643-1063	1-800-444-4799	1-703-494-3679



The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

www.mdarc.org

FIRST CLASS

THIS MONTH



W6CX Nets

Monday 7:00 pm Washington High School Net 147.060+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm General ATV Net 1241.250+

Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

FM 147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz - EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057
224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

D-STAR 145.000 offset plus 2.5 MHz

<https://stn3057.ip.irlp.net/status.html>

ATV Input: 1289.25 MHz AM/FM. Outputs 1241.25 MHz AM 919.25 MHz AM

ATV Internet Stream: <http://www.w6cxatv.net/live>

Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets

Every Thursday

<http://www.coco-races.org/meetings/nets/>

6:35 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB

6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)

7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex

7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex

7:00 pm South County 146.355+ (77.0 PL)

7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.3 PL)

Concord Auxiliary Radio Emergency Service (CARES)

Wednesday 8:00pm 147.405 Simplex

April and May 2013 Club Calendar

Friday April 19, 2013	6:00pm	MDARC General Meeting - ANNUAL AUCTION! No License Testing <i>Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette</i>
Saturday May 4, 2013	9:00 am	MDARC Technical Committee <i>Environmental Center, 2581 Harbor Street, Pittsburg</i>
Monday May 6, 2013	7:00 pm	MDARC Board Meeting <i>Black Bear Restaurant, 700 Bancroft Avenue, Walnut Creek</i>
Friday May 17, 2013	7:30 pm	MDARC General Meeting <i>Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette</i>